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NSO News

Updates from the LANL National Security Office

Welcome to the February newsletter. Recent highlights include progress on the nuclear deal with Iran, the continued challenges with North Korea, the developing situation in Ukraine and Georgia, and issues related to the United States Nuclear Deterrent. In this newsletter, some key messages from the recent Nuclear Deterrent summit, which is annually held in Washington, DC, are also included.

The NSO recently hosted a workshop organized with the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) at Stanford University on how other States view nuclear weapons and deterrence. Participants included Dr. Bradley Roberts, Gen. (Ret.) Robert Kehler, Bridge Colby, Dr. Robert Gromoll, and other experts.

If you would like to have a more in-depth discussion on this or any related topics, please contact Sylvia Martinez at 667-6120 to set up some time.

Bryan L. Fearey, NSO Director

Nuclear Deterrence Summit Recap

The sixth annual Nuclear Deterrence Summit held in Washington, DC on February 11-14, 2014 focused on balancing priorities, modernizing the nuclear weapons complex, and sustaining supporting capabilities for the complex.

Acting NNSA Administrator Bruce Held opened the Summit. After calling for timely confirmation of Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Frank Klotz as NA-1 and the Honorable Madelyn Creedon as NA-2, he stressed the need to move forward on “fixing” the complex’s capabilities associated with Y-12’s building 9212, and the Pu infrastructure. He then stated that the nuclear weapons complex needs to develop a “counter-intelligence approach to cyber-security.” Finally, Held called for a “more adaptive governance approach” for the labs; one that would treat the national laboratories as partners, not so-called profit centers. He added that it is time to “move toward a public interest approach” with respect to governance, and to move away from the nuclear weapons enterprise “creep” toward private ownership.

Maj. Gen. Harencak, USAF Assistant Chief of Staff for Nuclear Policy, strongly advocated for stabilizing DOE/NNSA funding, while also emphasizing the need to sustain the Triad in the long-term.

Of note, during the Extended Deterrence panel, a consistent theme raised was that the U.S. extended deterrence credibility has diminished recently in the eyes of many states around the world. As the U.S. pivots toward Asia, several allies share an increasing concern over how whether the U.S. can be relied upon as a guarantor of their security. Similar concerns were raised by speakers from the middle-east. These viewpoints are increasingly troubling, and raise concerns regarding growing proliferation interests in some states.

Other key speakers at this conference included Rose Gottemoeller, Acting Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, Vice Admiral Terry Benedict, Director of Strategic Systems Programs for the U.S. Navy, as well as directors from the three nuclear weapon laboratories. A link to the program is included on the back page.



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RECENT & UPCOMING MEETINGS:

“PRESIDENT OBAMA’S LEGACY ON PREVENTING
NUCLEAR TERRORISM: EXPECTATIONS FOR
THE NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT”
SEVERAL SPEAKERS
SPONSORED BY FISSILE MATERIALS
WORKING GROUP
NATIONAL PRESS CLUB
WASHINGTON, DC
MARCH 5, 2014, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

“PONI LUNCH WITH BRIG. GEN. JIM DAWKINS”
CENTER FOR STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES, 1616 RHODE ISLAND AVE. NW
WASHINGTON, DC
MARCH 6, 2014, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

“THE VALUE OF SPACE TO THE WARFIGHTER:
POSITION, NAVIGATION, AND TIMING”
THE MITCHELL INSTITUTE FOR AEROSPACE
STUDIES SEMINARS
RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
ONE CONSTITUTION AVE., NE
WASHINGTON, DC
FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014, 8:00 AM

“UNDERSTANDING BRAZIL’S NUCLEAR POLICY”
TOGZHAN KASSENOVA, GEORGE PERKOVICH
CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INT. PEACE
WASHINGTON, DC
MARCH 12, 2014, 12:00 - 2:00 PM

PONI CAPSTONE CONFERENCE
STRATCOM
OMAHA, NEBRASKA
MARCH 25, 2014

“JAPAN AND THE U.S. NUCLEAR UMBRELLA:
EXTENDED DETERRENCE AND NUCLEAR
WEAPONS”
TERENCE ROEHRIG, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MA
APRIL 9, 2014, 10:00 - 11:30 AM



CURRENT ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Ukraine:

[Why is Ukraine in turmoil?, BBC News Europe, 2014/02/22](#)

[Ukraine warns Russia after gunmen seize Crimea parliament, By Alessandra Pretice and Allissa De Carbonel, Reuters UK, 2014/02/27](#)

[Russia flexes military muscle as tensions rise in Ukraine's Crimea region, By Laura Smith-Spark, Phil Black and Frederik Pleitgen, CNN, 2014/02/26](#)

Iran:

[Iran's most sensitive uranium stockpile falls after nuclear deal, By Fredrik Dahl, Reuters, 2014/02/21](#)

[Changes Visible at Parchin Nuclear Site, Why Parchin Matters to a Final Deal, By David Albright and Serena Kelleher-Vergantini, Institute for Science and International Security Report, 2014/02/25](#)

North Korea:

[Cheap and Dirty Bombs, Could these creepy chest packs be North Korea's way of threatening radiological war?, by William C. Potter and Jeffrey Lewis, Foreign Policy, 2014/02/17](#)

[U.S., China face 'biggest challenge' over N. Korea's nuclear standoff, Yonhap News Agency, 2014/02/27](#)

[N. Korea fires 4 short-range ballistic missiles, Yonhap News Agency, 2014/02/27](#)

[Mysterious New Digging Work Seen at North Korea Nuclear-Test Site, By Rachel Oswald, Global Security Newswire, NTI, 2014/02/14](#)

North Korea & Iran:

[North Korea and Iran Explore Broadening Relations, Global Security Newswire, NTI, 2014/02/25](#)

Russia:

[Sarmat ICBM to be ready by 2020, Russian strategic nuclear forces website, 2014/02/25](#)

[McKeon: U.S. Should Formally Protest Russian Arms Control Breach, By Rachel Oswald, Global Security Newswire, NTI, 2014/02/25](#)

Correction on China Guarantee with Ukraine:

[China's Nuclear Parasol, By Christian Conroy, The Diplomat, 2014/01/26](#)

India and Pakistan:

[Fifteen Years Later, By Michael Krepon, Opinion Page, The Express Tribune, 2013/12/26](#)

[India, Pakistan and the Nuclear Race, Responses to Michael Krepon's prediction, Prepared by Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, The International Relations and Security Network, 2014/02/27](#)

6th Annual Nuclear Deterrence Summit:

[Agenda, 6th Annual Nuclear Deterrence Summit, Balancing Priorities to Modernize the Weapons Complex, Sustain Capabilities, Sponsored by the Exchange Monitor Publications & Forums, 2014/02/11-14](#)

U.S. Nuclear Deterrent:

[Pentagon to begin ICBM study, Air Force is asked to do missile base assessment, By Jenn Rowell, Great Falls Tribune, 2014/02/21](#)

[Q&A: As Fiscal Constraints Mount, New Group Looks to Defend Nuclear Arsenal, By Douglas P. Guarino, Global Security Newswire, NTI, 2014/02/21](#)

Historical Dates in February

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Feb. 3, 1950: | Klaus Fuchs arrested in Great Britain for passing classified information to the Soviet Union |
| Feb. 13, 1960: | France conducts their first nuclear test in Algeria. Test is codenamed "Gerboise Bleue" (Blue Desert Rat) |
| Feb. 28, 1987: | Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev indicates that USSR is ready to sign a treaty to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe. This helped lead to the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. |

National Security Office Mission:

The National Security Office (NSO) supports the Laboratory Director and senior management in our national security mission by developing and articulating national security strategies and providing policy and program analysis and advice to enable informed decisions about the strategic direction of our national security and science programs.